1983-10-29
Lynchburg News

Nelson group researching brain waves

By SUSAN GARBEE BRANDT
Staff Writer

NELLYSFORD — The research of the Monroe Institute of Applied Sciences here has attracted thousands from foreign countries and across the nation since it was formed in 1979.

Yet very few people in the Lynchburg area know anything about the brain-wave research of the 800-acre institute, just off Virginia 6 in Nelson County.

Few know the institute's research has enabled Tacoma, Wash., public school six-year olds to master skills they shouldn't develop until spring.

Or that the institute's patented sound process is being used to control pain in illness and surgery, and help insomniacs sleep, stroke victims recover and tennis players and golfers play better.

Nor do they know anything about the founder, Robert A. Monroe, who says that in 1958 his mind began leaving his body and traveling across the country, other universes and into the unknown.

Most Nelson County residents either don't know the institute exists or have heard one of many rumors about the place.

"I don't think the neighbors have any idea what goes on here," Nancy Honeycutt, Monroe's stepdaughter, said. "They know we deal with brain waves. They assume we are doing weird things to people's minds."

Shortly after Monroe wrote "Journeys Out of the Body," which details his out-of-body experiences, he left his broadcasting career and began full-time research on what causes a person's mind to leave the physical body and travel.

Monroe, then a prominent broadcasting executiv[illegible] listed in Who's Who in America, said his book helped him get out of the broadcasting [illegible] which is printed in six for-